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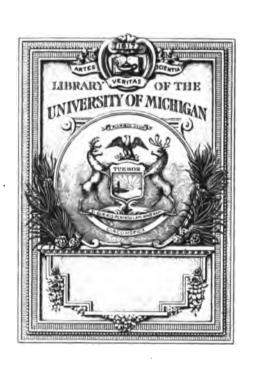
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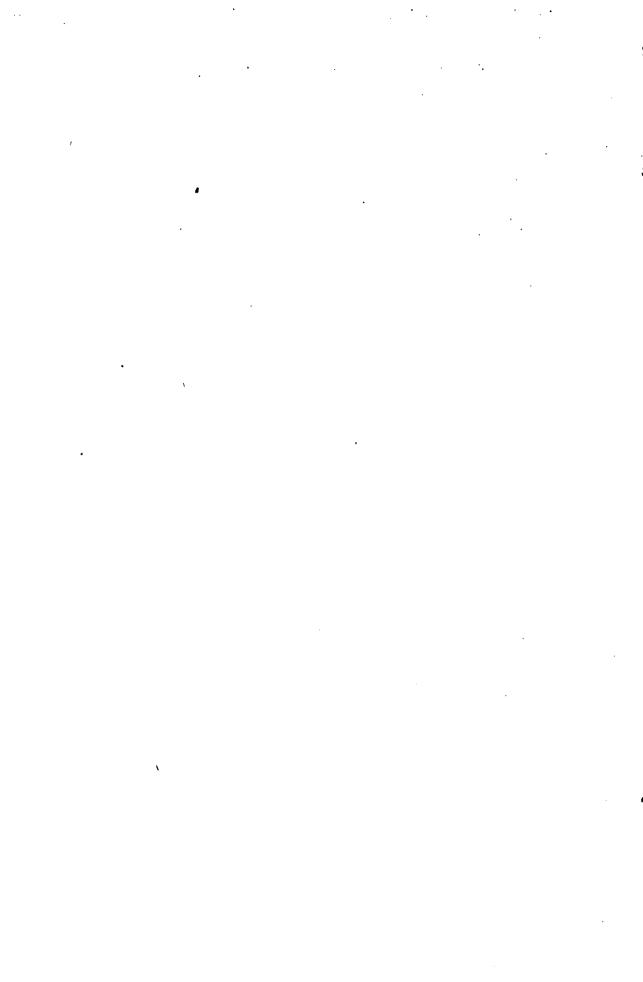
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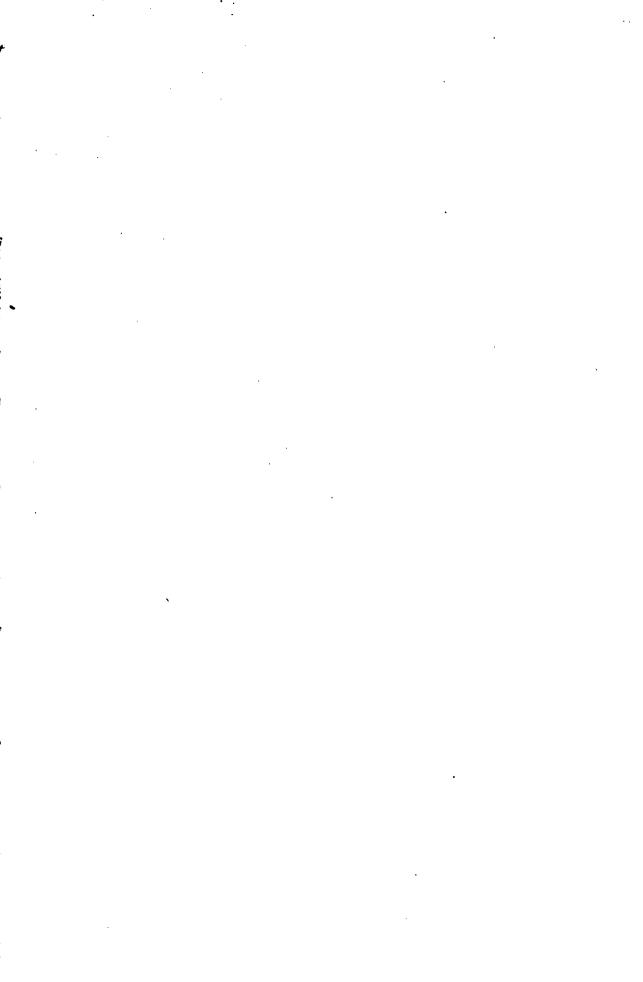
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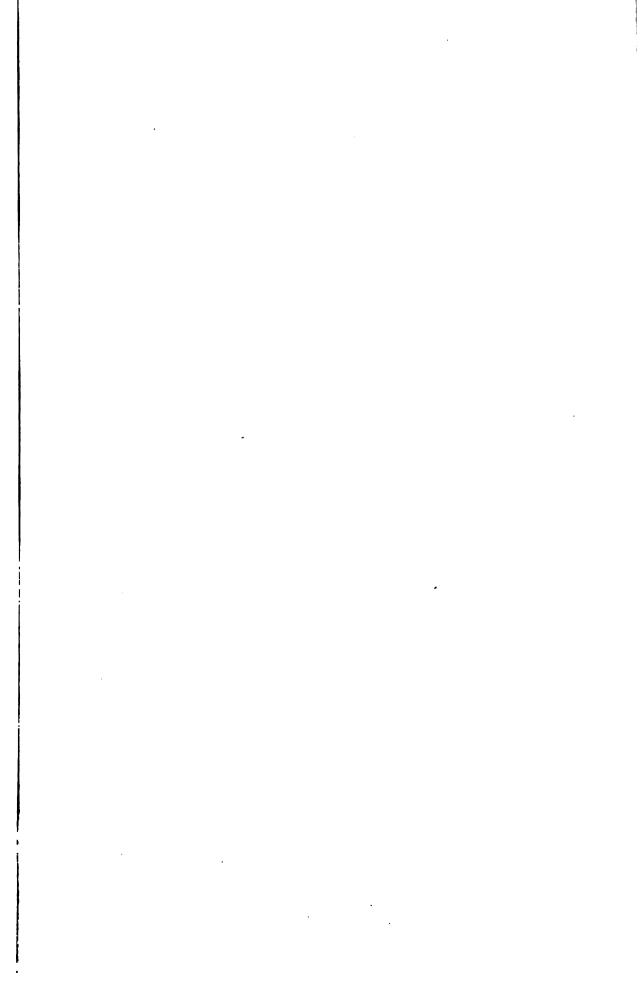








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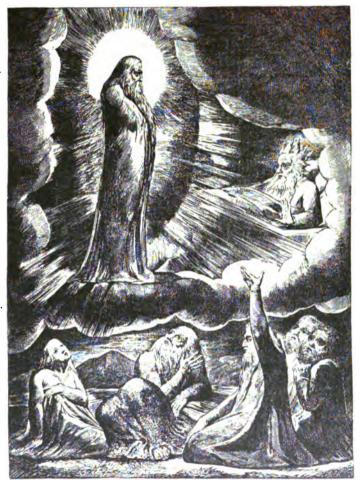




## F. S. CONVERSE

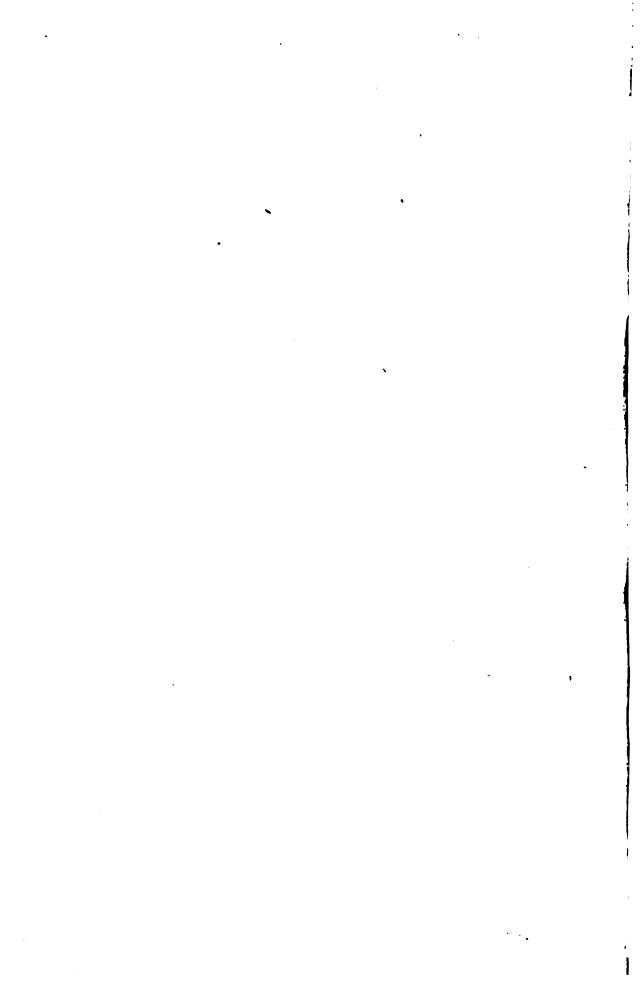
## JOB

### DRAMATIC POEM



From William Blake's Illustrations to the Book of Job

NEW YORK: THE H. W. GRAY COMPANY SOLE AGENTS FOR NOVELLO & Co. LIMITED LONDON



## TO WALLACE GOODRICH

COMPOSED FOR THE FIFTIETH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

OF THE

WORCESTER COUNTY MUSICAL ASSOCIATION

1907

## JOB

## DRAMATIC POEM

FOR

SOLO VOICES, CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA





PAPER, \$1.50 - BOARDS, \$2.00 - CLOTH, \$3.00

NEW YORK

THE H. W. GRAY CO.

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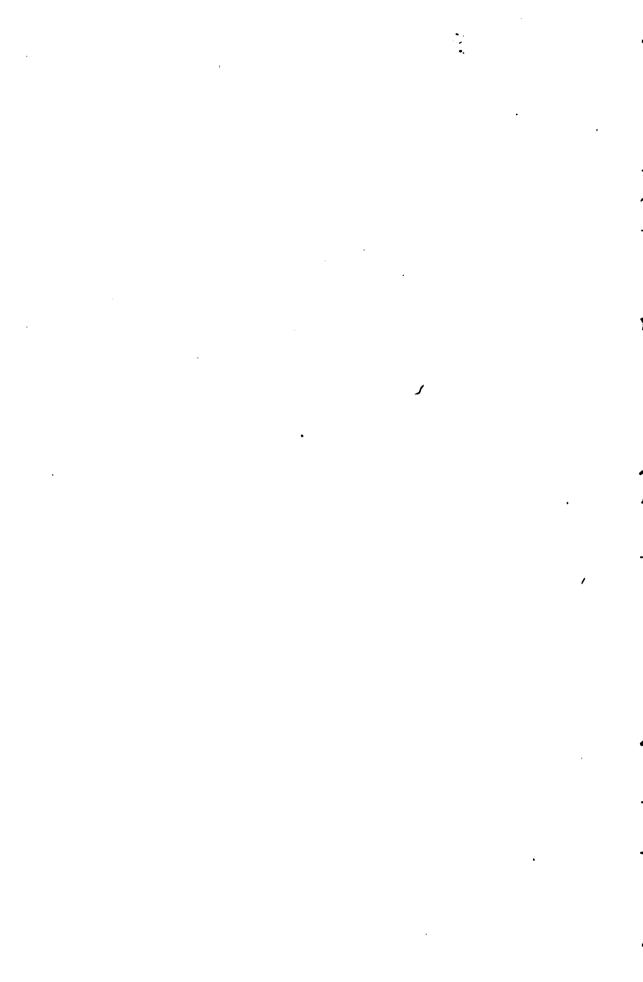
#### CHARACTERS.

Јов														Tenor
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Тнв	e Vo	OICE	OF	JE	нои	VA.	H							Bass
Voi	CES	OF	PR	AYE	R /	٩N	D	Α	1)(	)R	AT:	O	<b>J</b>	Chorus

The text is drawn from the Vulgate Version of the Book of Job and of the Psalms, and has been arranged with the assistance of

PROFESSOR JOHN HAYS GARDINER of HARVARD UNIVERSITY

English translation by JOHN ALBERT MACY



## JOB

A Dramatic Poem for Solo Voices, Chorus, and Orchestra. (The text consists of passages from Job and the Psalms in the Vulgate or authorized Latin version of the Bible. The English words are a paraphrase fitted to the music without regard to accepted English translations.)

#### THE PERSONS.

JOB	A WOMAN OF ISRAEL Mezzo-Sopr	ano
HIS FRIEND Baritone	THE VOICE OF JEHOVAH	lass
· Voices of Prayer and	ADDRATION Chorus	

#### MULIER.

Miserere mihi, Domine, et exaudi orationem meam.

#### CHORUS.

In te, Domine, speravi, non confundar in æternum: in iusticia tua libera me. Inclina ad me aurem tuam: accelera, ut eruas me. In manus tuas commendo spiritum meum.

#### MULIER.

Redemisti me, Domine Deus veritatis.

#### CHORUS.

Laudate Dominum, omnes gentes: laudate eum, omnes populi. Quoniam confirmata est super non misericordia eius, et veritas Domini manet in æternum.

#### IOB.

Pereat dies, in qua natus sum, et nox, in qua dictum est: Conceptus est homo. Dies illa vertatur in tenebras, non requirat eum Deus

#### THE WOMAN.

Have thou mercy upon me, Lord my God, in accordance with thy loving-kindness.

#### CHORUS.

In thee, O my God, I lay my trust, let me never be confounded. In thy justice and mercy deliver thou me. Incline thou thine ear to thy servant, and be thou, Lord, my fortress and rock. Into thy hands I commit my spirit forever.

#### THE WOMAN.

Thou hast redeemed me, God my Redeemer, Lord my Saviour.

#### CHORUS.

Praise ye the Lord our God, all ye nations: O all ye people, praise the Lord. For his mercy is ordained over us and the truth of our holy Lord shall abide forever.

#### JOB.

Perish the morning in which I was born, the night when a child was born into sorrow. Turn that day into darkness and shadow; let the eye desuper, et non illustretur lumine. Maledicant ei, qui maledicunt diei, qui parati sunt suscitare Leviathan. Nunc enim dormiens silerem, et somno meo requiescerem cum regibus et consulibus terræ, qui ædificant sibi solitudines. Ibi impii cessaverunt a tumultu, et ibi requieverunt fessi robore. Quare misero data est lux, et vita his, qui in amaritudine animæ sunt, qui exspectant mortem, et non venit?

#### AMICUS.

In horrore visionis nocturnæ, quando solet sopor occupare homines, pavor tenuit me, et tremor, et omnia ossa mea perterrita sunt: et cum spiritus me præsente transiret, inhorruerunt pili carnis meæ. Stetit quidem, cuius non agnoscebam vultum, imago coram oculis meis, et vocem quasi auræ lenis audivi: Numquid homo Dei comparatione iustificabitur? Forsitan vestigia Dei comprehendes, et usque ad perfectum Omnipotentem reperies? Excelsior cœlo est, et quid facies? profundior inferno, et unde cognosces? Si iniquitatem, quæ est in manu tua, abstuleris a te, et non manserit in tabernaculo tuo iniustitia, tunc levare poteris faciem tuam absque macula, et eris stabilis, et non timebis. Miseriæ quoque oblivisceris, et quasi aquarum, quæ præterierunt, recordaberis. Et quasi meridianus fulgor consurget tibi ad vesperam: et cum te consumtum putaveris, orieris ut lucifer.

of God be never upon it, and let not his light shine upon it. Let them curse the day, who curse the daylight, who are ready to raise up Leviathan. For I should be in silent slumber and deep in sleep lie resting quietly, like unto kings and to counsellors mighty who have built places desolate in solitude. There the wicked no longer vex, and cease from troubling, and there the souls that are weary lie in long slumber. Oh, why are light and life sent unto him whose way is hid and whose spirit is clouded with bitterness, who longeth for death, but it cometh not?

#### THE FRIEND.

In the horror of a vision of darkness, when the earth was deep in slumber and the night was still, terror filled my soul with trembling, and all my being quivered with wonder and fear. Behold, a spirit came in presence before me, and my flesh was cold and my heart was chill within me. There before me saw I one whose face I knew not, and the shadow of a form in the darkness. And a voice as of a wind came out from the darkness: How if man compare himself to God Almighty shall he be justified? For by man shall God and his ways be comprehended, and his most high perfection, canst thou in any way find it out? Higher than the heavens is he, and what canst thou know? Deeper than hell our Lord is, and what canst thou understand? If thou puttest from thee all wickedness and evil that thou holdest in thine hand, and if thou wilt cast out from thy dwelling-place every injustice and sin, thou canst raise an innocent face, pure and wholly without stain, and thou shalt fear not. Thy misery shall be forgotten, and even as waters that pass and return not, it shall come no more. And brightness clear as the light of noonday shall shine upon thee when the evening falls. And when thou hast thought thy life consumed, thou shalt shine forth like Lucifer.

# JOB

#### A DRAMATIC POEM

FOR

Soli, Chorus and Orchestra

BY

### F. S. CONVERSE

(Op. 24)

New York: THE H. W. GRAY CO., Sole Agents for NOVELLO & CO., Ltd., London

THE text of the poem consists of passages from the book of Job and the Psalms, grouped to form a short poetical unit. In the Bible story the cosmic background for Job's experiences is the agreement between Jehovah and Satan to try the man's faith. In the present poem the universal order, in the midst of which Job plays his part of human suffering, rebellion and final submission, is represented by passages from the Psalms which express the permanence and glory of God and his creation. The passages which comprise the text are chosen for the mood they convey without regard to their exact place in the Bible. In the main they follow the course of the Bible story and suggest the "argument" of the original, but the words of the Bible are sometimes put into the mouth of a different person, and in some of the musical units the words are assembled from several parts of the Bible text.

The dramatic motive of the poem is the development of the moods of Job, distress under suffering, rebellion, doubt, and final submissive understanding of the will of God. In emotional contrast with him is the Woman of Israel, who represents the spirit of unquestioning faith. The Friend stands like the three friends of the Bible story, for the spirit of conventional piety. The chorus represents superhuman voices which declare the glory of God; against their sustained mood of adoration and praise beats the contest of human emotions. The impersonal universal spirit of the chorus is conveyed in the music by simple diatonic harmonies, the warp upon which the solo parts are woven in modern chromatic design.

The poem opens with an orchestral prelude, which is followed with the antiphone: "Miserere mihi," sung by the Woman of Israel. A small chorus, unaccompanied, takes up the prayer. This is answered by the full chorus in the Psalm: "Laudate Dominum."

RUS.

s thy name How is thy reellence in yes behold hine hands: and starman that the son of on him?

condemn fore thou t good to ill and to man thou men thou ord like to dost thou of man is nowest as ou in my hou dost nowest I or that no ne hand. ions and offenses 1 me thy one who

f foolish ute him vilt thou nee?

desuper, et cant ei, qui suscitare Levi rem, et somn et consulibus dines. Ibi in requieverunt : est lux, et vit sunt, qui exsp

In horrore sopor occupan tremor, et omi cum spiritus i erunt pili carni: agnoscebam vi et vocem quas homo Dei com tan vestigia D perfectum Om: cœlo est, et qui unde cognosces manu tua, abst tabernaculo tuc faciem tuam ab . non timebis. ] quasi aquarum, Et quasi merid vesperam: et ( orieris ut lucifer

Across this flood of adoration rises Job's lament, in which he curses the day he was born and longs for death. The Friend describes in a dramatic scene a vision in which a spirit has appeared to him at night and a voice has asked how man can compare himself to God and fathom the mysteries of the infinite. The wisdom of God is unsearchable, and the pure and faithful shall be blessed. The Woman and the chorus of female voices sing: "How excellent is thy name in all the earth!.....What is man that thou art mindful of him?"

Job tells his friend that he will expostulate with God and show. that he deserves not his afflictions. The friend "reproveth Job of impiety in justifying himself." The Woman joins the reproof and this leads to a dramatic climax in which the full chorus proclaims the destruction of the wicked. But Job, unreconciled, shows that the wicked do prosper and "bemoaneth himself of his former prosperity and honor." In ecstatic revery he recalls the happiness of departed days. Toward the end of his revery the Woman and the Friend sing of the "sundry blessings which follow them that fear God," and the full chorus takes up the theme.

Job protests that he is not a sinful man. In defiance of his friend, and proudly confident of his righteousness, he appeals to God to judge him.

Then "out of the whirlwind," which is described in an orchestral episode, comes the voice of Jehovah in answer to Job's appeal. With overwhelming irony—"Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?"—the voice "convinceth" Job of the ignorance and pettiness of human life and utters the grandeur and permanence of creation.

Job, humbled and overcome, asks, "Whence then cometh wisdom?" and the Woman answers, "Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom." Job "submitteth himself unto God" and rises strong in his new wisdom. The Woman sings, "I will love thee, O Lord, my strength." The Friend and Job take up the theme. The chorus chants: "Bless the Lord, O my soul." The phrase, "Thou hast laid the foundations of the earth" echoes the voice of Jahovah in the earlier episode. Thus from Job's experience the eternity and majesty of nature is the theme which emerges and dominates. The poem ends with the triumphant "Laudate" of the opening chorus.

JOB vii

#### MULIER ET CHORUS.

Domine, Dominus noster, quam admirabile est nomen tuum in universa terra! Quoniam elevata est magnificentia tua super cœlos. Quoniam videbo cœlos tuos, opera digitorum tuorum: lunam et stellas, quæ tu fundasti. Quid est homo, quod memor es eius? aut filius hominis, quoniam visitas eum?

#### TOR.

Dicam Deo: Noli me condemnare: indica mihi, cur me ita iudices. Numquid bonum tibi videtur, si calumnieris me, et opprimas me opus manuum tuarum, et consilium impiorum adjuves? Numquid oculi carnei tibi sunt: aut sicut videt homo, et tu videbis? Numquid sicut dies hominis dies tui, et anni tui sicut humana sunt tempora, ut quæras iniquitatem meam, et peccatum meum scruteris? Et scias quia nihil impium fecerim, cum sit nemo, qui de manu tua possit eruere. Quantas habeo iniquitates, et peccata, scelera mea et delicta ostende mihi. Cur faciem tuam abscondis, et arbitraris me inimicum tuum?

#### AMICUS.

Numquid sapiens respondebit quasi in ventum loquens, et implebit ardore stomachum suum? Arguis verbis eum, qui non est æqualis tibi, et loqueris, quod tibi non expedit.

#### MULIER.

Quantum in te est, evacuisti timorem, et tulisti preces coram Deo. Docuit enim iniquitas tua os tuum, et imitaris linguam blasphe-

#### THE WOMAN AND THE CHORUS.

Father, Jehovah almighty, how is thy name in all the earth called wondrous! How is thy glory raised on high, how is thine excellence in the heavens exalted! For mine eyes behold the heavens thou madest, all that thine hands have fashioned above us; moonlight and starlight thou hast established. What is man that thou art mindful of him, or what is the son of man that thou shouldst look down upon him?

#### JOB.

I will say: Lord, be thou slow to condemn me. Wilt thou not show me wherefore thou so judgest me? Dost thou think it good to oppress me, to contrive to do me ill and to bear me down? Hatest thou the man thou madest, while the counsel of wicked men thou dost sustain? Are the eyes of the Lord like to mortal eyes, and even as man seeth, dost thou see also? Is thy day told as the day of man is reckoned, and are the years thou knowest as human years are numbered, that thou in my heart dost seek offenses and that thou dost search for my weakness? Thou knowest I have never sinned nor done iniquity, for that no power can deliver my spirit from thine hand. Tell me all my sins and my transgressions and mine errors; show me mine evil: mine offenses open unto me. Why hidest thou from me thy face and considerest thou me as one who offendeth?

#### THE FRIEND.

Now in vanity shall a wise man utter an empty reason and be filled with the ardor of foolish passion? How shall thy speech confute him when he cannot take thy meaning? Wilt thou speak when thy words thall not avail thee?

#### THE WOMAN.

Yea, with all thy might thou castest fear from thee, and restrainest prayer before thy God. For thy sin and iniquity teach thy lips mantium. Condemnabit te os tuum, et non ego: et labia tua respondebunt tibi.

#### AMICUS.

Nonne lux impii extinguetur, nec splendebit flamma ignis eius?

#### MULIER.

Lux obtenebrescet in tabernaculo illius, et lucerna, quæ super eum est, extinguetur.

#### MULIER ET AMERICUS.

Revelabunt cœli iniquitatem eius, et terra consurget adversus eum. Apertum erit germen illius, detrahetur in die furoris Dei. Hæc est pars hominis impii a Deo, et hereditas verborum eius a Domino.

#### CHORUS.

Quoniam, qui malignantur, exterminabuntur, sustinentes autem Dominum: ipsi hereditabunt terram, et delectabuntur in multitudine pacis. Quia peccatores peribunt. Inimici vero Domini mox ut honorificati fuerint et exaltati, deficientes, quemadmodum fumus deficient.

#### IOB.

Attendite me, et obstupescite, et superponite digitum ori vestro: et ego, quando recordatus fuero, pertimesco, et concutit carnem meam tremor. Quare ergo impii vivunt, sublevati sunt, confirmatique divitiis? Domus eorum securæ sunt et pacatæ, et non est virga Dei super illos. Quis mihi tribuat, ut sim iuxta menses pristinos secundum dies, quibus Deus custodiebat me, quando splendebat lucerna

evil and thou dost imitate the tongue of blasphemy. It is thine own mouth and not mine that condemneth thee, yea thine own lips shall testify against thee.

#### THE FRIEND.

For the light of the wicked shall perish and the spark of his flame shall die in darkness.

#### THE WOMAN.

Light shall be extinguished within his dwellingplace evermore, and the candle which hangs above his head shall not light him.

#### THE WOMAN AND THE FRIEND.

Heaven shall lay him bare, his iniquity uncover, and earth shall reveal him and rise against him. The increase of his house shall flow away from him: in the day of God's anger it shall be taken. This is the heritage which the Lord appointeth unto wickedness, the portion granted to wicked men.

#### CHORUS.

Woe to them, all evil doers: they shall be accursed; but the faithful, they that wait on God, they shall inherit the earth, in the ways of peace they shall find abundant sweetness. But all evil-doers shall perish. He shall cast out all his enemies; they shall vanish at the moment when they have been raised to honor and proudly exalted; as in smoke they shall be consumed away.

#### JOB.

Now hearken to me and be astonished, and let your finger-tips lie on your mouth for wonder, and mark me, when I do bethink me how it is, I am fearful, my body is shaken with trembling. Wherefore do the impious flourish, why are they upheld, how do they come to prosperity? Safe are their houses and free from harm, and God holdeth not his rod of wrath above them. Who would believe it so, that but yesterday were

eius super caput meum, et ad lumen eius ambulabam in tenebris? Sicut fui in diebus adolescentiæ meæ, quando erat Omnipotens mecum, et in circuitu meo pueri mei. Iustitia indutus sum: et vestivi me, sicut vestimento et diademate, iudicio meo. Dicebamque: In nidulo meo moriar, et sicut palma multiplicabo dies.

#### MULIER.

Beati omnes, qui timent Dominum, qui ambulant in viis eius.

#### IOB.

Radix mea aperta est secus aquas, et ros morabitur in messione mea.

#### AMICUS.

Labores manuum tuarum quia manducabis.

#### CHORUS.

Beatus es, et bene tibi erit. Uxor tua, sicut vitis abundans, in lateribus domus tuæ. Ecce, sic benedicetur homo, qui timet Dominum.

#### IOB.

Quis mihi tribuat auditorem, ut desiderium meum audiat Omnipotens. Per singulos gradus meos pronuntiabo illum, et quasi principii offeram eum. the old days, the months departed, when the Lord held me in his mighty hand, days when the flame of his splendor spread its brightness all about me, and beneath his light I walked in safety through the darkness? Even so my way was lighted through all the days of my ripeness, when the Lord in his mercy was with me and in a circle my children gathered about me. In righteousness I wrapped myself, I had clothed me with the robe of justice, it was a diadem, a garment about me. Then I said: I shall die in the nest that shelters me, and like the palm tree number my days full many.

#### THE WOMAN.

Blessed, thrice blessed, are they who fear the Lord, who follow in his ways forever.

#### JOB.

Then my roots were uncovered beside the waters, and dew from night to morning lay upon my branches.

#### THE FRIEND.

For what thine hands produce by labor thou shalt consume it.

#### CHORUS.

And blessed be, thou shalt be called happy. For beside thee as a vine that is laden, shall the wife of thine house be fruitful. Lo, how that man shall be blessed who walketh in the fear of God.

#### JOB.

Oh, would that there were one who should hear me, oh, my desire is great that thou shouldst hear my prayer, Almighty God. And I will declare my reasons, yea, one by one pronounce them, and as to a prince will I come before thee.

#### VOX DEI.

#### (Ex turbine.)

Ouis est iste involvens sententias sermonibus imperitis? Accinge sicut vir lumbos tuos: interrogabo te, et responde mihi. Ubi eras, quando ponebam fundamenta terræ? indica mihi, si habes intelligentiam. Quis posuit mensuras eius, si nosti? vel quis tetendit super eam lineam? Super quo bases illius solidatæ sunt? aut quis demisit lapidem angularem eius, cum me laudarent simul astra matutina, et iubilarent omnes filii Dei? Numquid ingressus es profunda maris, et in novissimis abyssi deambulasti? Numquid apertæ sunt tibi portæ mortis, et ostia tenebrosa vidisti? Numquid nosti ordinem cœli, et pones rationem eius in terra? Numquid elevabis in nebula vocem tuam, et impetus aquarum operiet te? Numquid mittes fulgura, et ibunt, et revertentia dicent tibi: Adsumus? Accinge sicut vir lumbos tuos: interrogabo te, et indica mihi. Numquid irritum facies iudicium meum, et condemnabis me, ut tu iustificeris? Et si habes brachium sicut Deus, et si voce simili tonas? Circumda tibi decorem, et in sublime erigere, et esto gloriosus et speciosis induere vestibus: disperge superbos in furore tuo, et respiciens omnem arrogantem humilia.

#### IOB.

Unde ergo sapientia venit? et quis est locus intelligentiæ?

#### THE VOICE OF JEHOVAH.

(From the whirlwind.)

What is this man who thus darkens counsel, speaking words that are vain and foolish? Now summon up thy courage to hear me: I will demand of thee and thou shalt answer me. Where wert thou when I made the earth and laid its deep foundations? Answer and tell me. if thou hast true understanding. If thou dost know, who hath determined the measures, or who hath laid the line and marked the boundaries? How are the foundation walls made and where do they stand? And who laid down the corner stone whereon they are founded? Then all the stars of morning praised me and sang for joy, and all the sons of God uplifted their voices. Hast thou explored the sea, even the deepest waters, into the uttermost abyss hast thou gone to search it? And have the gates of death opened out before thee, and hast thou beheld the shadowy portals? Dost thou know how heaven is appointed, and canst thou set on earth a heavenly dominion? And canst thou raise up thy voice, canst thou lift it to the clouds, and will the flood of waters abundantly flow? Canst thou send the lightning flash, and running before thee will it obey thee saying: Here am I? Now summon up thy courage to hear me: I will demand of thee and thou shalt give answer. Wilt thou make mine authority a scorn and a by-word? Wilt thou condemn my law that thou mayest be righteous? For hast thou an arm as strong as is my arm and a voice as strong as 'my thunder? Enfold thyself in all honor and raise thyself to high excellence, and be thou full of glory, and find thou beautiful garments to cover thee. Then scatter the mighty with thy voice of anger and beholding the proud and haughty teach them humility.

#### TOB.

Where then shall I seek the source of all wisdom? Who is the author of understanding?

#### MULIER.

Deus intelligit viam eius, et ipse novit locum illius. Et dixit homini: Ecce timor Domini, ipsa est sapientia, et recedere a malo, intelligentia.

#### IOB.

Scio, quia omnes potes, et nulla te latet cogitatio. Auditu auris audivi te, nunc autem oculus meus videt te. Idcirco ipse me reprehendo, et ago pœnitentiam in favilla et cinere.

#### MULIER.

Diligam te, Domine, fortitudo mea. Laudans invocabo Dominum, et ab inimicis meis salvus ero.

#### AMICUS.

Dolores inferni circumdederunt me: præoccupaverunt me laquei mortis.

#### IOB.

In tribulatione mea invocavi Dominum, et ad Deum meum clamavi. Et exaudivit de templo sancto suo vocem meam, et clamor meus in conspectu eius introivit in aures eius.

#### IOB, MULIER, ET AMICUS.

Commota est, et contremuit terra: fundamenta montium conturbata sunt, et commota sunt, quoniam iratus est eis.

#### THE WOMAN.

God only understandeth what is the way thereof, he only knoweth where is the place thereof. And he saith unto man: Lo, all wisdom, this it is, that thou shouldst live in fear of him, and to cast away all evil, is understanding.

#### JOB.

I know thou canst do all things, and nothing can be withholden from thy sight. With mine own hearing I heard of thee, but now the eye of my sight beholdeth thee. And therefore mine own lips do condemn me and I am low in penitence; dust and ashes cover me.

#### THE WOMAN.

I will love the Lord my God, my strength and my redeemer. I will call upon him, praising him and from mine enemies I shall find salvation.

#### THE FRIEND.

The sorrows of darkness folded me round about: the snares and deceits of death fastened upon me.

#### JOB.

In anguish and in tribulation I have called upon the Lord, unto God Almighty I cried out. And he gave ear from his holy temple, to my voice he hearkened; my lamentation came before his presence and he opened his ears to hear me.

#### JOB, THE WOMAN, AND THE FRIEND.

The earth then shook and the frame of it trembled. On their deep foundations the hills and the mountains swayed, and they shook with fear for the Lord was angered against them.

#### CHORUS.

Benedic, anima mea, Domino: Domine, Deus meus, magnificatus es vehementer. Confessionem et decorem induisti, amictus lumine sicut vestimento. Qui fundasti terram super stabilitatem suam: non inclinabitur in sæculum sæculi. Laudate Dominum, omnes gentes: laudate eum, omnes populi. Quoniam confirmata est super nos misericordia eius, et veritas Domini manet in æternum.

#### CHORUS.

Praise the Lord, praise him forever, O my soul, Lord God everlasting. How art thou magnified in the highest, how art thou clothed with all majesty and honor! Thou dost put on the light as it were a garment. Thou the earth hast founded steadfast upon its deep foundations that it shall not be moved but shall endure evermore. Praise ye the Lord our God, all ye nations: O all ye people, praise the Lord. For his mercy is ordained over us and the truth of our holy Lord shall abide forever.

## JOB

#### PRELUDE

#### F.S.CONVERSE, Op. 24



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